

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 20, 23, 24, 27-29, 32-34, 37-39, 42-44 and 47-51 are pending in the present application. Claims 20, 24, 27, 29, 32, 34, 37, 42 and 44 have been amended, claims 25, 26, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40 and 41 have been canceled and claims 47-51 have been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 20, 23-25, 27-30, 32-35 and 37-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kashiwagi et al. in view of Taira et al.; claims 20 and 23-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Taira et al.; and claims 26, 31, 36, 41 and 46 were rejected as unpatentable over Kashiwagi et al. in view of Taira et al. and Okada et al.

Claims 20, 23-25, 27-30, 32-35 and 37-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kashiwagi et al. in view of Taira et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 20 includes a combination of features and has been amended to clarify that the method includes creating an indication information indicating whether or not the current object of the picture data is to be presented seamlessly with the previous object based on a result of the determination, and selectively recording the seamless presentation information for a corresponding object when the indication information indicates the current object is to be presented seamlessly with the previous object. Claim 20 has also been amended to clarify that the seamless presentation data includes a last system clock reference field of a former of two successive objects and a first system clock reference of a latter of the two

successive objects. Independent claims 27, 32, 37 and 42 include similar features in a varying scope.

The features are also similar to features included in the co-pending Application Serial Number 09/245,855 (Now US Patent No. 6,625,386). These features are supported at least by the non-limiting examples shown in Figures 7A and 7B.

As discussed in the background of the invention, the conventional art records the seamless presentation regardless of whether or not the picture data is a moving or still picture, which unnecessarily increases the size of the navigation information file (see paragraph [0018] of the present Application). The present invention advantageously solves this problem.

The Office Action applies a new reference by Taira et al. as teaching creating the seamless presentation information for a corresponding object only when the determining step determines the current object of the picture data is to be presented seamlessly with the previous object and not creating the seamless presentation for the current object when the determining step determines the current object of the picture data is not to be presented seamlessly with the previous object. The Office Action also indicates it would have been obvious to combine Taira et al. with Kashiwagi et al. to teach the claimed invention.

However, Taira et al. is directed to handling movies in which the camera angles are changed. The seamless angles described in Taira et al. correspond to when the angle of the camera is changed (i.e., a different camera is selected) to show a continuous scene. The non-seamlessly angles in Taira et al. correspond to an identical scene that is captured by different cameras. In Taira et al., the navigation data has the same structure and includes the same amount of information (see, for example, Figures 13 and 19 in Taira et al., in which the "navigation"

information includes the same number of symbols related to the contents). There is no reduction in the amount of navigation data in Taira et al., because Taira et al. is related to moving images in all cases, and does not consider the possibility of still pictures and moving pictures being combined.

Thus, in Taira et al., there is going to be system clock reference information for both the “seamlessly” and “non-seamlessly” presented data, because both situations apply to moving images. That is, Taira et al., the user has the ability to return to a previous angle (a particular camera filming a particular angle in a scene), and thus Taira et al. must maintain the system clock reference information for a previous angle. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted combining Taira et al. with Kashiwagi et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 20, 27, 32, 37 and 42 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Claims 20 and 23-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Taira et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Taira et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection also be withdrawn.

Further, it is respectfully submitted the other rejection noted in the Office Action has also been overcome as claims rejected therein are dependent claims and Okada et al. also does not teach or suggest the features now recited in the corresponding amended independent claims.

In addition, new claims 47-51 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicants respectfully submit the new claims are fully supported by the originally-filed application. Further, in Taira et al. the navigation information for the “seamless” data and

the "non-seamless" data is written in different fields (see, for example, Figure 8). Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted new claims 47-51 further define over the applied art.

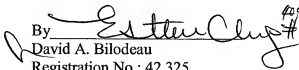
CONCLUSION

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David Bilodeau (Reg. No. 42,325) at 703-205-8072, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present Application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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